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## Curveball and the Trucks Malcom Lagauche, February 17, 2011

[The recent news that the person nicknamed "Curveball" lied to German authorities before the March 2003 invasion of Iraq is making headlines. The media make this sound like it is Earth-shattering. Even some CIA officials expressed shock and dismay at his current confession. How disingenuous. At the time of his revelations, even a nitwit could tell he was lying. Here is a chapter from my book ***The Mother of All Battles: The Endless U.S.-Iraq War*** that was released in October 2008. Currently, Powell is on a speaking tour of the US in which he tells how to become successful and rich. If one uses his formula, it is quite uncomplicated: lie and kill a few million people. -]

A couple of 15-year-old vehicles made world headlines in 2002. At first, the U.S. and British administrations heralded them as conclusive proof of Iraq concealing biological weapons. We all heard of the Iraqi "mobile germ factories" that traveled the highways of the country to keep from getting discovered. Dick Cheney said that inside these vehicles the most devastating germs were being manufactured and the Iraqis were going to pelt the east coast of the U.S. with a deadly brew that would kill millions. Cheney maintained that these germ weapons would be carried by secret drone aircraft that Iraq was developing.

Actually, there were a few drones being manufactured in Iraq and the Iraqis showed them to the world. They were made of balsa wood, had a range of about 25 miles and were used for mapping purposes. The east coast of the U.S. was a few thousand miles out of their range.

The actual importance of the two vehicles, alleged to be biological weapons factories, is minuscule, but their use for propaganda and the subsequent discovery that they were only used to pump hydrogen into weather balloons, put them on center-stage in world affairs.

The April 12, 2006 edition of the Washington Post ran a feature article, "Lacking Biolabs, Trailers Carried Case for War," that brought back the subject the administration would rather the world forget. According to the article:

On May 29, 2003, 50 days after the fall of Baghdad, President Bush proclaimed a fresh victory for his administration in Iraq: Two small trailers captured by U.S. troops had turned out to be long-sought mobile "biological laboratories." He declared, "We have found the weapons of mass destruction."

The claim, repeated by top administration officials for months afterward, was hailed at the time as a vindication of the decision to go to war. But even as Bush spoke, U.S. intelligence officials possessed powerful evidence that it was not true.

A secret fact-finding mission to Iraq — not made public until now — had already concluded that the trailers had nothing to do with biological weapons. Leaders of

the Pentagon-sponsored mission transmitted their unanimous findings to Washington in a field report on May 27, 2003, two days before the president's statement.

The administration wasted no time in turning the issue around. At a hastily-called press conference, presidential spokesman Scott McClellan accused the media of unfair reporting. He did not answer questions about whether Bush knew of the results of the team of experts. If Bush did not know the information, McClellan would have quickly come forth with a reply. In this instance, silence seemed to be damning.

In addition to not being forthright with the issue, McClellan demanded an apology from the press for running the article. According to the Associated Press article "White House Defends Stand on Iraqi Trailers:"

McClellan dismissed the Post article and a report based on it that aired on ABC News Wednesday morning as irresponsible. He said ABC News should apologize and took issue with the way the Post story was written.

In 2002, these trucks took on a life of their own. They became dastardly vehicles to be used to cause a cataclysmic event in the U.S. that would be unprecedented in history. During this time, the Iraqi government had publicly stated that the trucks were used to fill weather balloons with hydrogen, but the U.S. public was told that you can't trust the Iraqis because they lie and the U.S. doesn't. By November 2002, reports of these trucks, fueled by White House propaganda, began appearing in newspapers and magazines. Even the UCLA School of Public Health jumped on the bandwagon to create paranoia. On November 17, 2002, it ran an article from the Los Angeles Times called "Inspectors to Scour Iraq for Mobile Weapons Labs." It was published in the "Bioterrorism" section of its website. Here are a few gems from the article:

Rumbling along Iraq's highways or threading their way through crowded streets, these mobile weapons labs may look like ice cream trucks, motor homes or 18-wheeler tractor trailer trucks, officials and experts say.

But their cargo is believed to be germ agents such as anthrax, botulinum toxin and aflatoxin that theoretically could kill hundreds of thousands in an attack.

- Dubbed "Winnebagos of death," the anonymous vehicles are hard to locate, even with sophisticated sensors.
- If the labs evade detection, U.S. intelligence analysts fear, the officers or scientists who operate them might try to use germ agents in a desperate counterattack or spirit the materials away to sell to terrorists or foreign governments.
- If such materials fall into the hands of a group such as Al Qaeda, that would turn the military campaign into what "could be the greatest proliferation disaster in history," said Daniel Benjamin, a former National Security Council official and co-author of *The Age of Secret Terror*.
- The British and German governments, and the CIA and Pentagon, have all asserted the existence of the mobile labs in separate reports this year.

Here's what Colin Powell said of the two trucks in his infamous deluge of lies he told the world in February 2003 at the U.N.:

- Iraq's mobile BW program began in the mid-1990s — this is reportedly when the units were being designed.
- The source was an eyewitness, an Iraqi chemical engineer who supervised one of these facilities.
- Iraq manufactured mobile trailers and railcars to produce biological agents, which were designed to evade U.N. weapons inspectors. Agent production reportedly occurred Thursday night through Friday when the U.N. did not conduct inspections in observance of the Moslem holy day.
- An accident occurred in 1998 during a production run, which killed 12 technicians — an indication that Iraq was producing a BW agent at that time.

The CIA issued a report on May 28, 2003, without the knowledge of the secret team's assessment of the truth behind the trucks that smacked of the same preposterous allegations made by almost every pro-war reporter or politician in the Western world. Here is the overview of the report titled "Iraqi Mobile Biological Warfare Agent Production Plants:

"Coalition forces have uncovered the strongest evidence to date that Iraq was hiding a biological warfare program.

The design, equipment, and layout of the trailer found in late April is strikingly similar to descriptions provided by a source who was a chemical engineer that managed one of the mobile plants. Secretary of State Powell's description of the mobile plants in his speech in February 2003 to the United Nations was based primarily on reporting from this source.

Both Powell and the CIA cite an Iraqi chemical engineer who supposedly worked on the trucks and also told of 12 deaths. This source was discredited long before either Powell or the CIA used his bogus testimony.

An Iraqi who defected to Germany in 1999 was the originator of these falsehoods. His given nickname was "Curveball," a designation of his slippery and swerving testimony. After the Germans heard the lies, they contacted the CIA with the information, but told the U.S. intelligence organization that he could not be trusted and said they would not give any credence to his information. The Germans described Curveball as a person not living in Iraq and as an "out of control" and mentally deranged alcoholic. One CIA report stated that Curveball was "a con artist who drove a taxi in Iraq." This description was not seen by many because the neocon Office of Special Plans overrode CIA information when it deemed it necessary to keep the war plans on schedule.

Curveball was a drunken liar who was paid to say things that the U.S. wanted to hear. He gained an easy payday for a while and then was taken off the payroll when it was discovered he was a fraud. The U.S. failed to listen to the Germans about Curveball's dubious character.

On June 15, 2003, British newspapers wrote the truth about the two trucks and caused great embarrassment to Tony Blair because he went along with the U.S. script on the use of the vehicles. According to the Observer, in an article titled "Iraqi Mobile Labs Nothing To Do With Germ Warfare, Report Finds:"

An official British investigation into two trailers found in northern Iraq has concluded they are not mobile germ warfare labs, as was claimed by Tony Blair and President George Bush, but were for the production of hydrogen to fill artillery balloons, as the Iraqis continued to insist.

A British scientist and biological weapons expert, who has examined the trailers in Iraq, told the Observer last week, "They are not mobile germ warfare laboratories. You could not use them for making biological weapons. They do not even look like them. They are exactly what the Iraqis said they were — facilities for the production of hydrogen gas to fill balloons."

Never have two old beaten up trucks gained the mythical status of the two Iraqi vehicles used for producing hydrogen. Millions and millions of dollars were spent on propaganda that elevated their standing to that of world-threatening devices that could kill millions of people instantly. An unknown Iraqi drunkard had his 15 minutes of fame and improved his finances immensely because of the trucks. More than a million Iraqi lives were lost because of the lies used to describe them.

On March 13, 2007, ABC News ran a story about Curveball. Despite people knowing of his real identity and calling for caution in 2003 about his testimony, the ABC report shocked much of the U.S. population because they had never heard of Curveball.

Powell got much mileage from Curveball's lies at the U.N. in February 2003 when he told the world of the dastardly Iraqi mobile biological weapons factories.

During the March 13, 2007 ABC News report, the commentator mentioned Powell's assessment of the old story turned new. According to ABC News, "Powell said he is furious with what happened and his former chief of staff says he feels deceived."

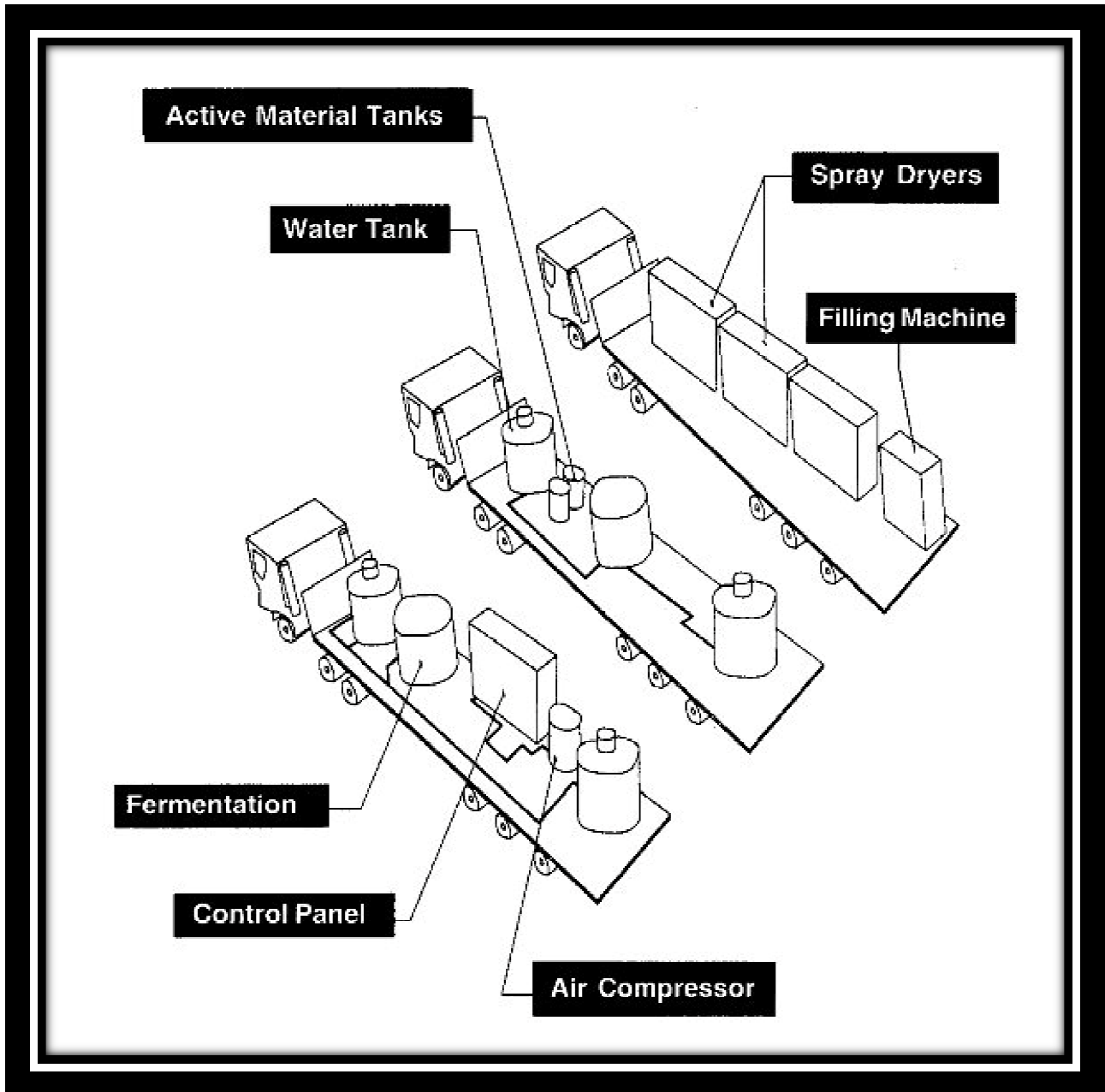
The perpetrator became the victim. Powell could have refused to bring up the mobile biological weapons factories (years later, he said he was not convinced with the information), but he put on an Academy Award performance in front of the world.

**That presentation led to the destruction of a country and the deaths of more than a million**

**Iraqis and thousands of U.S. military personnel. These facts did not bother him as he worried only about his image and legacy.**

While speaking to the U.N. in February 2003, Colin Powell told the world that Iraq's mobile BW program began in the mid-1990s and that was the time the trucks were being designed. In reality, they were sold to the Iraqi army by the British firm Marconi Command and Control in 1987 as trucks to carry and fill weather balloons.

[www.uruknet.info?p=75104](http://www.uruknet.info?p=75104)



**Depiction of Iraqi mobile biological weapons trucks as described by Colin Powell on 5 February 2003 [- the day on which Ernst Zündel was arrested at his home in Pidgeon Forge, Tennessee - AI]. According to Powell's testimony, each truck had two accompanying vehicles to help produce the lethal agents.**

## My Life as a Leper

Peter Ryan, Quadrant Online

**This is an edited version of the speech Peter Ryan gave in response after Professor Geoffrey Blainey launched Peter's book *Final Proof* at a Quadrant dinner at the Marriott Hotel in Melbourne on December 3, 2010.**

I am grateful to *Quadrant*, and to the ever-valiant Keith Windschuttle, who have arranged such a distinguished gathering, and to Geoffrey Blainey, who has spoken so generously.

In bits and pieces of writing over the years, I've touched on the experiences of working in a variety of jobs: public servant; five years a soldier; bush timberworker; publisher of comic books and other rubbish; ten years in advertising and public relations; and a hopeless effort to scratch a living as a freelance journalist.

Then came the twenty-six years at Melbourne University Press, of which some highlights are given in the little book so graciously launched tonight. Finally, a working life rounded off (if that is the phrase) by fifteen years as an Officer of the Supreme Court of Victoria, retiring when I turned eighty.

Tonight, I thought I might describe briefly the slice of experience which I can only call "My Life as a Leper". First, however, it just occurs to me that I have shaken quite a number of hands here at this gathering: if anyone would like to slip out for a quick scrub-up, please feel free to do so.

My infection with the socially embarrassing distemper of literary leprosy arose from a long article in *Quadrant* of September 1993. It was only my second contribution to that admirable magazine, and it is interesting now to reflect that it was written with high encouragement from its then Editor, Robert Manne.

That article re-examined the value of the work of historian Manning Clark, who had died a few years earlier. Re-reading it the other day, some seventeen years later, I remained confident that it was written in polite terms, and that all its assertions were backed by cogent evidence. Of course I realised that my conclusions would be widely unacceptable, but I took it for granted that contrary argument would be made within the arena of reasonable evidence and civil language: I never made a bigger mistake in my life.

What follows is indeed a doleful tale, but you mustn't think that it depressed me as it unfolded. It had, indeed, an outrageous humour which frequently set me laughing aloud. Clearly, Australia had already distinguished itself in the 1940s with the famous Ern Malley hoax. Now, with Clark, we had done it again, but this time were refusing to own up to the joke. When all the smoke finally blew away, not one of my facts or arguments had been refuted, or even addressed.

First warning of the ferocity of the coming storm was given by the *Age* newspaper of Thursday, August 26, 1993. Even the paper's posters out on the street read: "Manning Clark's Work Canned".

The ABC news that morning went all the way to New York to find its comment, and from that city we heard art critic Robert Hughes pronounce that "Ryan played dirty pool". Then he admitted that he hadn't read the article! This blend of ill-will and irrelevance was long to disfigure the Clark side of the debate.

Paul Keating's speechwriter, Don Watson, called me "a cannibal who should repay his superannuation to Melbourne University". Work that out! Veteran historian

Russel Ward said I was mad. The prolific Peter Craven jeered about my being "an old war hero". (There's another one to work out.)

From the ANU, Professor Paul Bourke wrote a three-column article for the *Canberra Times*. A bold heading pronounced me to be a "pornographer of power" and "a knocker". He went on to suggest that I was probably telling lies.

My mailbox for a couple of weeks brought abusive letters. "May all your children die of cancer" was a choice specimen. Oddly, none of them was signed.

Australian historians announced two seminars specially to discuss this unexpected stir in their tranquil pond, and one seminar actually took place. I was not invited to attend either of them.

During the whole of my twenty-six years service with MUP I had taken part in the activities of the Australian Book Publishers Association. Some years after I had retired from the Press, the Association held its annual dinner in Melbourne, and the then Books Editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, Ian Hicks, invited me to come as his guest. On our arrival, the Association's President, who was Australian CEO of one of the world's great publishing houses greeted us (or greeted me) with: "Bloody cheek you've got to show your nose in here!" Hicks, sturdily: "Peter's here as my guest, Brian. Shall we stay?" President (graciously): "Since you're in, you might as well get yourselves a drink, I suppose." So you see, it's not all that bad being a leper if you can score a couple of decent free scotches before your dinner.

Hicks and I were given seats alone at the remotest corner of the dining area, with a couple of dozen empty chairs as a *cordon sanitaire* to shield the rest of the company from infection. Nicholas Hasluck, son of MUP's leading author Sir Paul, came down from the top table to sit and chat with the outcasts.

The most relentless of my traducers was Stuart Macintyre, Professor of History at Melbourne University. When he called me "a coward", I publicly offered him a chance to repeat it, provided he stood within arm's length as he said it. The offer remains open.

Clark's supporters tried to represent me as a publisher who had lured Manning into MUP's list, exploited him, and then cruelly turned on him. As so often in dealings with some parts of Australia's academic establishment, the facts are otherwise. The Press Board's commitment to Manning had been made long before my appointment to MUP was even contemplated. When I arrived in mid-1962, the printed copies of Volume I were already in store. Moreover, the contract obliged the Press to continue publishing as many further volumes in the series as Manning chose to write.

The six-volume History's sales made a great deal of money for Manning, and for MUP, but my true evaluation of the man's authentic worth is surely seen in the fact that, of his half-dozen or so later published books, *not one* received the MUP imprint.

While at the Supreme Court, I got a phone call from a graduate student from overseas who was working on a thesis at the Melbourne History School. I shall not

disclose this person's identity. The student told me the topic of the thesis; could I help? It just so happened that I did have considerable relevant knowledge, including certain details which would not be known to anyone else. And of course I would be pleased to assist. As I was from time to time doing some private research in the nearby Baillieu Library, it was agreed that we should meet at the ground floor entrance to the History Department which, after successful recognition, we shortly did. Ushering me hurriedly into a lift, the student murmured, "I don't think anyone saw us." And then, as we ascended: "I've got the use of this room up here. I don't think anyone will come in. It would do me no good if it got out that I'd consulted you." I dissembled my puzzled irritation at all this mystification, and we established that I could certainly

be of material help. I agreed to make myself available in the future, and left the building alone, as inconspicuously as I could. I never heard another word.

Reflecting on this odd episode, I wondered whether I should buy a wig and dark glasses, if I were ever to visit the Department again. The atmosphere had resembled that of ancient Rome under the Emperor Tiberius, or of Moscow under Stalin. I had to remind myself that it had been that citadel of free and open inquiry, the Melbourne University School of History.

As the years passed, I have gradually been allowed to stop ringing my bell; now it is time, as we lepers say, to throw in my hand, and sit down.

<http://www.quadrant.org.au/magazine/issue/2011/1/my-life-as-a-leper>

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## **Editors' Prologue**

**Editorial Staff, Holocaust Handbook Series,**

**TBR, Washington, DC, May 17, 2010**

When faced with demands by Congressman Ron Paul to bring our (the U.S.'s) troops home from the various wars the United States are currently waging, Senator John McCain stated during a *CNN Republican Debate* on Nov. 28, 2007: **1**

*"I just want to also say that Congressman Paul, I have heard him now in many debates talking about bringing our troops home and about the war in Iraq and how it's*

*failed, and I want to tell you that that kind of isolationism, Sir, is what caused World War II. We allowed Hitler to come to power with that kind of attitude of isolationism and peace."*

Of course, the real reasons for World War II can be found in the way the world ended World War I and how it treated democratic Germany between 1919 and 1933. The war was ended with the promise of free

trade, ethnic self-determination, and disarmament for all – U.S. President Wilson’s famous Fourteen Points.<sup>2</sup> Yet what followed was a 15 year lasting occupation, subjugation, plundering, humiliation, and forced one-sided disarmament of Germany and Austria only, whose people were denied any attempt at self-determination, frequently by use of force. What the world had been denying peaceful democratic Germany during all those years, it then conceded to National Socialism under Hitler, who had learned that the world would give Germany what was rightfully hers (and later more than that) only under the threat of violence.

That is not the point we want to make here, though. If we look into the war propaganda put forth by the U.S. before and during the wars against Serbia in 1999 and against Iraq in 1991 and 2003, plus when we look into how certain lobby groups have been pushing for a war against Iran over the past three years or so, we can see a pattern: Slobodan Milosevic,

in 1999 leader of tiny Serbia, as well as Saddam Hussein and now Mahmoud Ahmadinejad are compared with – Adolf Hitler. Milosevic and Hussein were even accused of committing (or having committed) similar crimes of genocide – against the Kosovo Albanians here or the Kurds there. Hussein is even said to have used poison gas for that purpose. These claims, among others, were used to justify the wars.

And there is no better justification for a war than to prevent a new Hitler – or a new threat to exterminate the Jewish people, an accusation currently leveled against Ahmadinejad.

We know today that the claims about weapons of mass destruction raised against Hussein were false. But they served their purpose well, because the world is so conditioned to react with automatic, Pavlovian style reflexes to such claims. One reason why these accusations work so well and why the world is so gullible to believe them, no matter how often they have been revealed to be wrong in the past, is because of that giant boogeyman called Hitler. Once his name is dropped and successfully put into the “right” context, there seems to be no stopping. War is the only solution to stop Hitler, Slobo-Hitler, Saddam-Hitler, Mahmoud-Hitler, or whatever their names may be.

Genocidal hysteria is today used to justify the wars of the U.S. and their allies, Israel being the most belligerent of them. Not that preventing genocide isn’t a worthwhile goal. It actually is, and in extreme cases maybe even by military intervention. But today genocide or the (real or fabricated) threat of it is attracting the U.S. government’s and military’s attention only if it is about either securing the almighty dollar, the free flow of goods (mostly oil), and – well, dare we say it? – the subjectively perceived security of Israel and its interests (which includes an aggressive expansionism into Palestinian lands). Genocide in Somalia, Congo or Darfur? Who cares?

It has come to the point where summoning the evil spirits of Adolf Hitler and “his” über-genocide – the holocaust – is the trump card needed to start just about any war the Powers That Be want to wage.

Wasn’t one of the primary lessons of the world wars supposed to be that wars are evil? And wasn’t another lesson that governments use propaganda tricks to drive people into discriminating against minorities, into ethnic cleansing, into genocide, and into wars?

Presentations in today’s media frequently give the impression that World War II was fought to prevent or stop the holocaust, when in fact nothing could be further from the truth. In 1939 there was only one statesman who had proven to be a gargantuan mass murderer: Joseph Stalin. Yet instead of fighting him, the U.S. and Great Britain decided to gang up with Stalin in order to fight Hitler, who in 1939 may have caused the death of several hundred innocent people, but that was an almost ridiculous amount, if compared to Stalin’s peacetime(!) death toll of many millions of innocent souls.

Yet still, today’s media, politicians, and even many scholars on the subject agree almost in unison that World War II really was a “good” war, where the good guys – the Allies – beat the bad guys – Hitler, plus the Japs as a collateral. But how can anyone seriously call the Allies “good guys,” when Stalin was one of them, who, in addition to his prewar massacres, was also responsible for innumerable atrocities during the war, for the ethnic cleansing of uncounted millions in Eastern Europe at war’s end, and for the subjugating of some 20 nations afterwards?

Hence:

- World War II was NOT a good war!
- The good guys did NOT win that war, as there were no good guys!
- The holocaust was NOT the reason why it was fought.

And yet, after World War II the Powers That Be have been very successful in driving their people into one war after the other by referring to this “mother-of-all-wars.” Pacifists are dumbfounded at how good those warmongers are in using the horrors of this greatest war ever to instigate even more wars. And so have some of us been for the past decade or so.

And then we eventually stumbled over holocaust revisionism or “holocaust denial,” if you wish, and we suddenly knew why those warmongers are so good at it.

Mainstream media, politicians and academics depict holocaust revisionists as evil creatures trying to re-establish National Socialism, to prepare for another holocaust. As a consequence the world wages a constant war on holocaust revisionists, and this even includes the United Nations, which have passed a resolution against those wicked “deniers,” urging all nations to take action against them.<sup>3</sup> Those nations in

turn pass laws to outlaw revisionist thoughts, to imprison the revisionists, to burn their books, and to ban their ideas from public fora. Every revisionist a little Hitler.

But is that true?

As far as we have found out by now, it is not true. But do you know what? We don't care anymore.<sup>4</sup> Because what we have come to understand is that the holocaust is the secret weapon of psychological warfare of the Powers That Be, which they use to expand and maintain their militaristic empire, to justify wars and subjugations, to foist their financial, economic and cultural system upon others against their will. Summon the evil ghosts of Hitler and the holocaust, and the world will blindly and defenselessly follow your war drums.

Against that, revisionism in general *is the key to peace*, where revisionism stands for: Be critical! Don't take for granted what those militant Powers want you to believe in justification of their deeds! Instead, look again (Latin: *revidere*) into their claims! Review their evidence!

Revise your opinion, if needed. This definition of revisionism is the opposite of what those warmongers want you to believe, isn't it? And for a good reason: because they want to prevent with all means that we obtain and entertain a critical mind.

Holocaust revisionism is the most important one of those critical attitudes, as it is the key to understanding that governments have lied, are lying, and will always lie to us. And it is a key to understanding what modern "democratic" governments are willing to do in order to suppress ideas which threaten their nefarious ways.

The continual, annoying resorting to the holocaust theme as a means to justify war is the reason why we became skeptical and curious. And we have found out that we are not alone with that attitude. Famous British Jewish musician and writer Gilad Atzmon, for instance, had a similar experience, as he has described on March 13, 2010, in an essay which wraps it all up nicely: **5**

*"When I was young and naïve I regarded history as a serious academic matter. As I understood it, history had something to do with truth seeking, documents, chronology and facts. I was convinced that history aimed to convey a sensible account of the past based on methodical research. [...] When I was young, I didn't think that history was a matter of political decisions or agreements between a rabid Zionist lobby and its favorite holocaust survivor. [...] When I was young and naïve I was also somehow convinced that what they told us about our 'collective' Jewish past really happened. [...]"*

*As it happened, it took me many years to understand that the holocaust, the core belief of the contemporary Jewish faith, was not at all an historical narrative, for historical narratives do not need the protection of the*

*law and politicians. [...] It took me years to accept that the holocaust narrative, in its current form, doesn't make any historical sense. [...]"*

*I think that 65 years after the liberation of Auschwitz, we must be entitled to start to ask the necessary questions. We should ask for some conclusive historical evidence and arguments rather than follow a religious narrative that is sustained by political pressure and laws. We should strip the holocaust of its Judeo-centric exceptional status and treat it as an historical chapter that belongs to a certain time and place.*

*[...] We should also ask, what purpose do the holocaust denial laws serve? What is the holocaust religion there to conceal? As long as we fail to ask questions, we will be subjected to Zionists and their Neocon agents' plots. We will continue killing in the name of Jewish suffering. We will maintain our complicity in Western imperialist crimes against humanity.*

*As devastating as it may be, at a certain moment in time, a horrible chapter was given an exceptionally meta-historical status.*

*Its 'factuality' was sealed by draconian laws and its reasoning was secured by social and political settings. The holocaust became the new Western religion. Unfortunately, it is the most sinister religion known to man. It is a license to kill, to flatten, no nuke, to wipe [out], to rape, to loot and to ethnically cleanse. It made vengeance and revenge into a Western value. However, far more concerning is the fact that it robs humanity of its heritage, it is there to stop us from looking into our past with dignity. Holocaust religion robs humanity of its humanism. For the sake of peace and future generations, the holocaust must be stripped of its exceptional status immediately. It must be subjected to thorough historical scrutiny. Truth and truth seeking is an elementary human experience. It must prevail."*

(In)famous political scientist Norman G. Finkelstein recently agreed to this when he stated in an interview to the 2009 documentary *Defamation* by Israeli documentary filmmaker Yoav Shamir:**6**

*"The irony is that the Nazi holocaust has now become the main ideological weapon for launching wars of aggression. Every time you want to launch a war of aggression, drag in the Nazi holocaust."*

The most impressive thing about Shamir's documentary, however, is that he lets his audience experience how young Jewish Israelis are being traumatized by holocaust "education," which should better be called brainwashing, and how many Jews in the world, due to that kind of socialization, have become thoroughly paranoid about every single Gentile being a potential anti-Semite and about a new holocaust lurking behind every corner. This way many Jews have become prepared to do just about anything to protect themselves and their interests from both (rarely) real and (often) purely imaginary threats:



ostracizing, stigmatizing, abusing, mistreating, harming, even killing Gentiles, if they stand in their way. What is all the suffering of gentiles compared to the holocaust anyway? Nothing. So why bother?

Although the holocaust – even the revisionist version of it, which is still filled with the horrors of persecution suffered by a religious minority – could be employed to worthwhile educational ends by teaching people to be tolerant toward individuals with other ethnic, cultural, religious, political, or philosophical backgrounds, it is actually misused to foster hatred and distrust among Jews against Gentiles in general and Germans (and in extension: Europeans and Christians) as well as Palestinians (and in extension: Arabs and Muslims) in particular. The “holocaust” of the current prevailing notion has created a paranoia among Jews and has thus become a mental ghetto of modern-day Jewry, forcefully separating it from the rest of the world. If Jewry wants to overcome this paranoia, it needs to break out of this ghetto.

Having had similar insights, we figured that the “holocaust” version forced down our throats for obvious political ends might not be kosher at all. Hence we started reading every scholarly book written about “holocaust deniers,” and written by them in order to make up our own minds.

And now we have taken sides, because we think we’ve found the tools needed to blunt the warmongers’ psychological wunder-weapon and to liberate Jewry from its modern ghetto: They are called Truth and Exactitude in writing history.

And we have found ample confirmation for what French mainstream historian Prof. Dr. Michel de Boüard stated in 1986 about the mainstream version of the holocaust (Lebailly 1988):

*“The record is rotten to the core,”* which was confirmed fourteen years later by Jean-Claude Pressac, once the darling of the holocaust establishment:

*“It is too late. [...] The current view of the world of the [National Socialist] camps, though triumphant, is doomed. What of it can be salvaged? Only little.”* (Igounet 2000, pp. 651f.)

Call us whatever you want – “anti-Semites,” “neo-Nazis,” or for some of us even “self-hating.” Such hollow insults don’t impress us anymore, after we have seen what revisionist scholars have to endure. Be that as it may. We will remain the pacifists that we have always been, and we will resist warmongers, be they imperialist, colonialist, nationalist, Zionist, Christian, Muslim, Jewish, anti-Revisionist, or what have you.

\* \* \*

This is the second book of the *Holocaust Handbook Series* edited by us, after our predecessor Germar Rudolf was unlawfully arrested by the U.S. government in 2005 and deported to his native Germany, where he was subsequently put on trial and sentenced to a prison

term for having edited this very series.<sup>7</sup> What better proof do we need that this series must be important, than that it is obviously considered dangerous by the Powers That Be?

This series can proudly claim to be the *only* one of its kind in the entire world which deserves the attributes “academic,” “scholarly,” and “scientific,” because only such research can claim to be scientific which resists external pressures to come to certain conclusions. In that sense this series does a magnificent job indeed, as it is truly the only series of books on this topic that dares to withstand the massive pressures exerted by the Powers That Be.

Since the end-1990s, Prof. Dr. Robert Jan van Pelt has been the flagship of those Powers in defending the core of their myths, and hence in justifying their imperialistic wars and shoring up their persecution of peaceful dissidents.

To underscore the statements made above, we will now quote Prof. van Pelt himself, the subject of this book. In 1999 van Pelt was preparing himself to confront British historian David Irving in court in an attempt to refute Irving’s (partially) revisionist views. Irving himself got involved in revisionism after he had learned about the so-called *Leuchter Report*, which had been prepared in 1988 for a court case in Canada by Fred A. Leuchter Jr., then a specialist in the construction and maintenance of execution equipment. After Leuchter had inspected the respective facilities in Poland, he claimed in his report that the alleged homicidal gas chambers of Auschwitz and Majdanek could not have functioned as such.<sup>8</sup> Needless to say that this didn’t exactly go down well with the Powers That Be.

To the rescue of the special interests of these Powers came brave Prof. van Pelt in the late 1990s, after other attempts at staving off revisionism had failed.<sup>9</sup> When interviewed about revisionism in 1999, van Pelt stated the following:<sup>10</sup>

*“Holocaust denial for me is so revolting, and the way for me not to immediately become sick with having to deal with Leuchter, was by saying, OK, I am going to map his journey.”* [00:36:47-00:37:00]

This shows that van Pelt is obviously a person who is emotionally incapable of dealing objectively with dissenting opinions, as they make him sick. That alone is enough to render him unfit to act as an expert.

But that wasn’t all. Van Pelt continued:

*“Auschwitz is like the holy of holies. I prepared years to go there and to have a fool [Leuchter] come in, come in completely unprepared, it’s sacrilege. Somebody who walks into the holy of holies and doesn’t give a damn.”* [00:40:59-00:41:20]

For van Pelt and persons sharing his views, Auschwitz and the holocaust are thus not items of the real world, which can and ought to be scrutinized as every other item, but they have a religious, a sacred dimension and



may therefore not be challenged. This, too, renders him unfit to pose as an expert in the matters at hand. To this van Pelt added:

*"Crematorium II is the most lethal building of Auschwitz. In the 2,500 square feet of this one room, more people lost their lives than any other place on this planet. 500,000 people were killed. If you would draw a map of human suffering, if you created a geography of atrocity, this would be the absolute center."* [00:55:44-00:56:15]

Hence, for van Pelt the holiest of places is at once the one representing the absolute center of evil. What kind of a religion is that which reveres symbols of absolute evil? Yet the pinnacle of van Pelt's insight was yet to come:

*"If the holocaust revisionists would be shown to be right, we would lose our sense about the Second World War, we would lose our sense about what democracy was. The Second World War was a moral war; it was a war between good and evil. And so if we take the core of this war, which is in fact Auschwitz, out of the picture, then everything else becomes unintelligible to us. We collectively end up in a madhouse."* [01:23:30 of original version<sup>11</sup>]

Here you have it: World War II was a war of good against evil, a moral war; and the holocaust was at the core of that war.

As is intelligible to anyone only somewhat familiar with just a few basic facts about World War II, these statements are dead wrong. But people like van Pelt have made up their minds and their world view, and they even made their mental sanity depend on that myth. No wonder, then, that revisionism drives these people crazy.

How crazy it drives them can be seen from statements of some of the world's leading holocaust peddlers. Haunted by the revisionist demands to show them or draw them a Nazi gas chamber, Elie Wiesel wrote in his memoirs (1994, p. 97):

*"The gas chambers should better have stayed locked away from indiscreet gazes. And to the power of imagination."*

Claude Lanzmann, who is best known for his film *Shoah*, which is basically a concatenation of unscrutinized anecdotal statements,<sup>12</sup> expressed a similar irrational hostility toward more reliable kinds of evidence like documents or even material evidence:

*"In Shoah there is no time spent on archival material because this is not the way I think and work, and besides, there isn't any such material. [See! Told you!...] If I had found a film – a secret film, because filming was forbidden – shot by the SS, in which it is shown how 3000 Jews – men, women, and children – die together, suffocated in the gas chamber of crematory II in Auschwitz, then not only would I not have shown it, I would have even destroyed it. I cannot*

*say why. That happens on its own."* (Le Monde, March 3, 1994)

If you think that's insane, then brace yourself for what is yet to come, because Prof. Dr. Robert Jan van Pelt has suggested during an interview with the Toronto newspaper *The Star*, published on Dec. 27, 2009,<sup>13</sup> that the extant material traces of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, the site "where the murders happened," should be left to be "reclaimed by nature." Or in other words: he wants them to disappear. He stated that the material traces of the alleged crimes shouldn't be preserved, because:

*"To put the holocaust in some separate category and to demand that it be there – to demand that we have more material evidence – is actually us somehow giving in to the holocaust deniers by providing some sort of special evidence."*

As if the demand for material evidence for the alleged biggest slaughter in the history of mankind were unreasonable. Don't we ask for material evidence for every single case of murder or manslaughter?

Then why not here? And if the deliberate destruction (or should we say premeditated abandonment?) of evidence of an alleged crime is a crime in itself, then why not here?

But read this statement again, and then ask yourself: Do the revisionists demand *more* material evidence? More than *what*? In this same interview van Pelt himself had to admit the following:

*"Ninety-nine percent of what we know we do not actually have the physical evidence to prove... it has become part of our inherited knowledge."*

Yet after having read the present book, it will be clear that the remaining one percent, which according to van Pelt is based on material evidence (including wartime documents), does not prove what van Pelt asserts. So it is more accurate to say: 100% of what is claimed about industrialized mass murder in gas chambers at Auschwitz is based on... "inherited knowledge," or in plain English: nothing but hot air – which is, however, *contradicted* and thus *refuted* by all extant material and documentary evidence. Hence there is *no* physical or documentary evidence at all for van Pelt's claims! There is therefore nothing exceptional about asking for any kind of material evidence for an alleged crime, if nothing has been presented so far. *Not* demanding material evidence would put the holocaust into a "separate category" from all other historical or criminological claims. So the shoe is on the other foot.

However, revisionists are indeed perfectly happy with the existing material and documentary evidence, which points in but one direction, a different one than van Pelt wants it to. The revisionists don't need more evidence, and they don't ask for more. The case is clear for all openminded persons to see. It is the exterminationists who need more, in fact *any* material and documentary

evidence to support their case. It is *they* who ought to ask for more evidence.

\* \* \*

Van Pelt has titled his anti-revisionist book *The Case for Auschwitz*. This implies that revisionists are making a case *against* Auschwitz, which is of course nonsense. But that kind of suggestive insinuation is typical for the obfuscatory, misleading attitude of the exterminationists.

The revisionists, too, make a case *for* Auschwitz. It merely is a different Auschwitz than what van Pelt champions. It is an image of Auschwitz based on a consistent, conclusive, rational, judicious, sensible, and indeed sane analysis of the extant evidence. The revisionist case for Auschwitz is a case for sanity. May this book be a beacon for sanity both in historiography and in society in general – by making the case against not just van Pelt's impending insanity, for we don't want him or anyone else to end up in a madhouse – do we?

May this book also contribute to the demise of the warmongers' pivotal myth, replacing it with *real history* instead.

#### Footnotes:

1. See [www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Q9WzCrLuC4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Q9WzCrLuC4)
2. See [www.famousquotes.me.uk/speeches/Woodrow\\_Wilson/](http://www.famousquotes.me.uk/speeches/Woodrow_Wilson/)
3. See United Nations, "Resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly on Holocaust denial," A/RES/61/255, 26 January 2007; [www.un.org/holocaustremembrance/docs/res61.shtml](http://www.un.org/holocaustremembrance/docs/res61.shtml); cf. United Nations, General Assembly, "General Assembly adopts resolution condemning any denial of

holocaust," 26 January 2007;

[www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2007/ga10569.doc.htm](http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2007/ga10569.doc.htm); United Nations, "Ban calls on world to fight Holocaust denial, anti-Semitism and bigotry," 27 January 2009; [www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=29679](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=29679)

4. As far as we know, there are not much more active, publishing Holocaust revisionists in the world than there are fingers on one hand, with little money, little support and hardly any access to the mass media. So what threat can they pose? What's the hubbub all about that even the U.N. feel urged to pass a resolution against them?

5. G. Atzmon, "Truth, History and Integrity," March 13, 2010; [www.gilad.co.uk/writings/truth-history-and-integrity-by-gilad-atzmon.html](http://www.gilad.co.uk/writings/truth-history-and-integrity-by-gilad-atzmon.html); similar Daniel McGowan, <http://palestinethinktank.com/2009/09/25/daniel-mcgowan-what-does-holocaust-denial-really-mean/>

6. See <http://wideeyecinema.com/?p=7208>, starting at 1 hr., 15 min., 46 seconds into the movie.

7. Actually, the one volume summarizing the entire series: *Lectures on the Holocaust*.

8. On the trial see Kulaszka; on Leuchter see Trombley; on his report see Leuchter et al.

9. Mainly those by J.-C. Pressac; re. his failure see Rudolf 2005.

10. Documentary video by Errol Morris, *Mr Death: The Rise and Fall of Fred A. Leuchter, Jr.*, Fourth Floor Productions, May 12, 1999; online i.a. at

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=654178281151939378#>; time given in [hr:min:sec]; for a transcript see [www.errolmorris.com/film/mrd\\_transcript.html](http://www.errolmorris.com/film/mrd_transcript.html).

11. From Sundance version (Jan. 27, 1999); the revised VHS/DVD version has this passage excised.

12. As book see Lanzmann 1985.

13. [www.thestar.com/news/insight/article/742965--a-case-for-letting-nature-take-back-auschwitz](http://www.thestar.com/news/insight/article/742965--a-case-for-letting-nature-take-back-auschwitz)

## Author's Preface

Between January 11 and April 11, 2000, a lawsuit unfolded before the Royal Court of Justice in London as a result of David Irving having sued Deborah Lipstadt and the publishing house Penguin Books Ltd. for libel. It ended with the dismissal of the British historian's claims. Robert Jan van Pelt had been entrusted by the defense team with the preparation of an "expert opinion" which he presented in 1999. It became known as the "The Pelt Report."<sup>14</sup> The author later rewrote it together with his affidavit for the appeal procedure,<sup>15</sup> and in 2002 published it in the form of a book, *The Case for Auschwitz*, which became the new reference work of holocaust historiography in this field.

In doing so, van Pelt succeeded Jean-Claude Pressac who by that time had become an uncontrollable maverick dealing official historiography blow upon blow. Pressac was therefore sent into what might be labeled historiographic purgatory, half-way between the revisionists' hell and the paradise of the holocaust believers. This historiographic interdict weighed upon him until he died on July 23, 2003, in the total silence

of the media, which had previously praised him to the skies. The irony of fate would have it that on his death he was eulogized only by his erstwhile opponents.<sup>16</sup>

The post of the world-wide authority on Auschwitz had thus to be filled by a trustworthy person who would promote Pressac's purified theses without the latter's annoying spirit of criticism and bring about a new metaphysical vision of Auschwitz, immutable and definitive this time – van Pelt, in short.

"The Pelt Report" and the book which resulted from it constitute what is essentially a plundering of Pressac's work, but the man himself is never mentioned as the source of the arguments which van Pelt has usurped. The entire work rests upon two main pillars: the *corpus* of "criminal traces" assembled by Pressac and the testimonies of the witnesses, which center, in turn, on the declarations made by Henryk Tauber, a former detainee and member of the so-called *Sonderkommando* (see chapter 10). Van Pelt regards

them as having "the highest evidentiary value" and makes Pressac's analysis of these declarations his own.

Van Pelt, however, has honed Tauber's significance, making him the mainstay of his argumentation, the measure of all sources to the point where he even uses his own documents to bolster the "plausibility" of Tauber's declarations. This is true as well for the other testimonies which gravitate around Tauber's statements for the sole purpose of "confirming" them.

It is easy to see why van Pelt does this. Tauber's testimonies have constituted the seemingly unassailable basis of holocaust historiography as far as cremations and homicidal gassings at Auschwitz are concerned – from 1945 to 1993, from Jan Sehn to Pressac. Pressac's own "criminal traces" rely tacitly or explicitly on Tauber's assertions and merely constitute, as it were, their (fictitious) documentary rendition.

Van Pelt's choice has another, more important motive: he had to deal with technical problems in the field of cremation and crematorium ovens with which he was entirely unfamiliar, and so he blindly followed Tauber's statements. By accepting the absurdities uttered by this witness, however, and by making them the basis of his own reasoning, van Pelt has engendered a chain reaction which leads to the self-destruction of his book.

The radical refutation of van Pelt's argumentation therefore requires three specific approaches: one concerning the "criminal traces," another concerning the cremations and crematorium ovens, and a third concerning Tauber's testimony. They will constitute the first, second, and third part of the present work, respectively.

Compared to Pressac, van Pelt has introduced a new method or rather a new designation for a method, the "convergence of evidence" – a method which Pressac had already utilized without giving it a specific name. It consists in the confrontation of allegedly independent documents and testimonies in an effort to show that everything "converges" on the thesis of an extermination. Part Four examines the practical application of this method by van Pelt and lays bare the serious technical and historical mistakes that flow from it. Part Five finally analyzes in detail the origins of the alleged convergence of testimonies.

In the section "Preface and Acknowledgment" of his book, thanking his supporters, van Pelt says (pp. XIII-XIV):

*"Writing my rebuttal to Rudolf's affidavit, I was fortunate to have Green, Mazal, Keren, and McCarthy as partners in a daily conversation that quickly also included John Zimmerman, Kern Stern, Peter Maguire, and Stephen Prothero."*

The present study will deal with a number of examples concerning the competence and intellectual honesty of

some of these persons. Van Pelt also speaks with much self-assurance of the task he had in the Irving- Lipstadt trial (p. IX):

*"It was my task, therefore, to help the defense barristers Richard Rampton, Heather Rogers, and Anthony Julius convince the judge that no serious historian who had considered the evidence would have serious cause to doubt that there were gas chambers at Auschwitz."*

This arrogant statement was refuted by Justice Gray himself in his sentence of April 11, 2000. On this subject, he writes in section 13.71:**17**

*"I have to confess that, in common I suspect with most other people, I had supposed that the evidence of mass extermination of Jews in the gas chambers at Auschwitz was compelling. I have, however, set aside this preconception when assessing the evidence adduced by the parties in these proceedings."*

Unbelievably, this point of view was shared by van Pelt (p. 100): *"My first problem was rather straightforward: the evidence for Auschwitz was undoubtedly problematic."*

In section 13.73 he adds:**17**

*"I recognise the force of many of Irving's comments upon some of those categories. He is right to point out that the contemporaneous documents, such as drawings, plans, correspondence with contractors and the like, yield little clear evidence of the existence of gas chambers designed to kill humans. Such isolated references to the use of gas as are to be found amongst these documents can be explained by the need to fumigate clothes so as to reduce the incidence of diseases such as typhus. The quantities of Zyklon B delivered to the camp may arguably be explained by the need to fumigate clothes and other objects. It is also correct that one of the most compromising documents, namely Muller's [recte: Bischoff's] letter of 28 June 1943 setting out the number of cadavers capable of being burnt in the incinerators, has a number of curious features which raise the possibility that it is not authentic. In addition, the photographic evidence for the existence of chimneys protruding through the roof of morgue 1 at crematorium 2 is, I accept, hard to interpret."*

In section 13.74, Gray accepts furthermore the value of several of Irving's arguments:**17**

*"Similarly Irving had some valid comments to make about the various accounts given by survivors of the camp and by camp officials. Some of those accounts were given in evidence at the post-war trials. The possibility exists that some of these witnesses invented some or even all of the experiences which they describe. Irving suggested the possibility of cross-pollination, by which he meant the possibility that witnesses may have repeated and even embellished the (invented) accounts of other witnesses with the*

*consequence that a corpus of false testimony is built up. Irving pointed out that parts of some of the accounts of some of the witnesses are obviously wrong or (like some of Olère's drawings) clearly exaggerated. He suggested various motives why witnesses might have given false accounts, such as greed and resentment (in the case of survivors) and fear and the wish to ingratiate themselves with their captors (in the case of camp officials). Van Pelt accepted that these possibilities exist. I agree."*

The justice's conviction with respect to the reality of the homicidal gas chambers at Auschwitz derived solely from the presumed "convergence of evidence," as he stated in section 13.78:17

*"My conclusion is that the various categories of evidence do 'converge' in the manner suggested by the Defendants."*

This book constitutes the first complete and radical dismantling of the intrinsically false argumentative

structure and of the spearhead of mainstream holocaust historiography about Auschwitz by demonstrating, on the one hand, that Pressac's "criminal traces" have no value as evidence and, on the other, by documenting the fact that van Pelt's "convergence of proof" is purely fictitious.

As against this, the present work furnishes a coherent and *actually* converging set of evidentiary elements which show that the holocaust thesis regarding the existence of homicidal gas chambers at Auschwitz is historically, documentarily and technically unfounded.

**Footnotes:**

14. The report is available at:

[www.holocaustdenialtrial.org/en/trial/defense/van](http://www.holocaustdenialtrial.org/en/trial/defense/van)

15. The affidavit is available at: [www.holocaust-history.org/irving-david/vanpelt/](http://www.holocaust-history.org/irving-david/vanpelt/)

16. Graf 2003, pp. 406-411; Mattogno 2003d, pp. 412-415, Countess, p. 413.

17. [www.holocaustdenialtrial.org/ieindex.html](http://www.holocaustdenialtrial.org/ieindex.html) sub "The Judgement," § XIII.

